

École Heather Park Elementary
SAFETY BULLETIN – November 2020
VEHICLE TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIANS

Studies have shown children are at the greatest risk of being struck by vehicles while walking along driveways and through parking lots – not on the roadway.

Factors such as: vehicles travelling in reverse, high profile SUV's, vans, trucks, and rushed and distracted drivers increase the risk of injury to our children.

As you are aware, the amount of vehicle traffic in and around Heather Park Elementary has always been significantly greater than other elementary schools. Four main areas are identified as problematic: staff parking lot, visitor parking lot, bus loop, and the roadside drop-off zone.

It is imperative that we all work together to keep our children safe by following these traffic guidelines:

- **Do not enter** the bus/fire loop between 8:00am and 3:30pm on school days for any reason. The bus loop is for buses, commercial deliveries and persons in need of the designated disabled parking stalls only.
- **Do not** use the staff parking lot under any circumstances for student drop off or pick up. This parking lot is for Heather Park staff only.
- **Do not enter** the visitor parking lot unless you are confident you will be able to park in a designated parking stall. The lack of adequate sidewalks and the ability to exit makes this a congested area has been identified as posing the greatest risk to students. This parking lot is for parking only.
- **Do not create** a line up of vehicles in the visitor parking lot that will require a 3 point turn to exit.
- **Do not stop in the middle of street** to drop off children.
- **Do enter** the visitor's parking lot only if you are confident that you will be able to park in a designated parking stall.
- **Do use** the roadside drop-off zone adjacent to the teacher parking area along Heather Park Road. Drivers should stay in their vehicles to ensure the prompt clearing of the drop-off zone. The parking limit is 5 minutes.
- **Do back** your vehicle into parking stalls whenever possible. This will reduce your vehicles' blind spots and improve your sight lines when you leave the parking area.
- **Do read and follow** signage on streets, in parking lots and in the bus loop, park in designated spots only.
- **Do use** the parking lot at the Elk Center Arena whenever possible, especially if you are expecting an extended stay at the school.
- **Do give** yourself enough time so you are not approaching the school rushed.
- **Do follow** the signals from our crossing guards, they are working very hard to keep our young pedestrians safe.

This safety bulletin is brought to you by your Parents' Advisory Council volunteers and school administration. For more information on this topic or other PAC programs, please visit <http://www.heatherparkpac.info/>